

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings and versions of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

1-25. (Canceled).

26. (Previously presented) A method of palliating an allergic reaction in a mammalian subject, comprising the steps of:

identifying a mammalian subject in need of treatment for an allergic reaction that is characterized by eosinophil accumulation, and

administering to said mammalian subject a composition comprising an MDC antagonist in an amount effective to palliate the allergic reaction; wherein the MDC antagonist comprises an antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof that specifically binds to a mammalian MDC polypeptide.

27-29. (Canceled).

30. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein the MDC antagonist is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an antibody that specifically binds to a mammalian MDC polypeptide;

(b) a polypeptide that specifically binds to a mammalian MDC polypeptide and comprises an antigen-binding fragment of an anti-MDC antibody of (a); and

(c) combinations of (a) and (b).

31. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein said antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof is selected from the group consisting of monoclonal antibodies, polyclonal antibodies, single chain antibodies, chimeric antibodies, and humanized antibodies.

32-37. (Canceled).

38. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein the MDC antagonist is a monoclonal antibody.

39. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the MDC antagonist is a polypeptide that specifically binds to a mammalian MDC polypeptide and comprises an antigen-binding fragment of an ~~anti-MDC antibody of claim 26.~~ antibody that specifically binds to a mammalian MDC polypeptide.

40-46. (Canceled).

47. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein the monoclonal antibody is selected from the group consisting of 191D (produced by a hybridoma with ATCC Accession No. HB-12122), 252Y (produced by a hybridoma with ATCC Accession No. HB-12433), 252Z (produced by a hybridoma with ATCC Accession No. HB-12434), and 272D (produced by a hybridoma with ATCC Accession No. HB-12498).

48. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the antibody [substance] or antigen-binding fragment thereof specifically binds to a human MDC polypeptide.

49. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the antibody [substance] or antigen-binding fragment thereof is a humanized antibody or humanized antibody fragment.

50-54. (Canceled).